

ANNOUNCEMENTS – December 19th

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the glory of God in memory of loved ones who have passed away and in honor of their family, given by Terry and Diane Roberts (2 vases), and by Dick and Carol Haar on their wedding anniversary on December 21st, given by the Haar family.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

12-12-21: 8:00 am: 43 10:30 am: 76 Online: 42 Total: 161

OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

Ada Kreger – NW Ohio Hospice (Detroit Ave.)

PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES: *Add:* Family of Richard Snyder, Ada Kreger, John Hansen, Leroy & Summer Hensley, Logan Murphy, Jim Schumaker, Debbie Eversman, Margaret Witt, Family of Mark Walker, Sara Richardson, A.J. Walker, Richard Counterman, Larry Paul, Janet Quiroga, Laura Scherer and family, Rob Zunk

Ongoing Concerns: Christine Balk, Lynn Balogh, Bennett, Dan Bibish, Karen Bless, Pastor Joe Brosious, Amy Brumley, Lori Capitola, Jeannette Carlo, Pat Christy, Marjorie Counterman, Nancy Coy, Hannah Culler & family, Mary Ann Davies, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins, Dawn, Chiara Del-Mace, Emmalyn, Paulette Giaimo, Scott Giaimo & family, Mickey Jurrus Gill, Mary Gillespie, Grace Harris Greenbank, Tom Hartford, Gary Henningsen, Pastor Beth Huener, Dana Justice, Mark Kieswetter, Joanne Koch, Tom Kohn, Sharon Kruse, Heidi LeGrand, Linda, Dustin Lively, Joyce Martin, Terry Mays, Bonnie Meier, Donna Miller, Nick, Liz Perozek, Pam Pirolli, John Ranchan, Todd Reynolds, Steven Riegle, Logan Roberts, Ann Ryan, Norm Schumaker, Judy Sharp, Shelley Sherman, Skylar, Ann Smith, Louise Sommers, Julie Swanson, Tom Tedrow, Becky Thielan, Joan Tilton, Carlene Trost, Kellie Ulrich, Jane Vargo, Nick Wasserman, Katelyn Weirich, Jeff Wheeler, Bill Wiener, Sharon Winslow, John Yard, Raetta Zeisler

CALENDAR FOR DEC. 19 – DEC. 25

<u>Today</u>	8:00 am	- Worship / Communion
	9:15 am	- JAM Sunday School
	10:30 am	- Worship / JAM Christmas program
	4:00 pm	- Piano Recital and Reception
	4:00 pm	- Youth Night Christmas Party
<u>Monday</u>	4:15 pm	- Praise Singers
	5:30 pm	- Bell Choir
	7:30 pm	- Dartball (Away)
<u>Tuesday</u>	7:00 pm	- Church Council in lounge (Boards meet at 6:30 pm)
<u>Thursday</u>	5:30 pm	- Bell Choir
	7:00 pm	- Choir Practice
<u>Friday</u>		- CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED AT NOON
	7:00 pm	- Christmas Eve Service
	11:00 pm	- Christmas Eve Service

WELCOME to First St. John Lutheran Church! We're happy you're here. If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest book, located in the Narthex (lobby).

WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to the family and friends of Richard Snyder who passed away on December 12th due to complications following back surgery. A private graveside service was held on Friday.

THANK YOU: As we celebrate this Advent season of joy and anticipation, I'm writing to say "Thank you" for the generous gift of \$591, given by you to the Genacross Lutheran Services General Fund. Thank you for your partnership with Genacross and your patient kindness in light of the sale of our Toledo ministry building. God bless and be with you all! -- Dr. Jim Dumke, VP for Mission Integration

SPECIAL THANK YOU: Thank you to everyone for the prayers, thoughts, well-wishes and cards during my surgery and recovery these past weeks. It is great to have so many friends in Christ. Blessings to everyone.
-- Pastor Ray!

THANK YOU to our students and our JAM teachers and Sunday School Board members for your hard work in planning and performing today's JAM Christmas program.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: Christmas Eve services will be at 7:00 pm and 11:00 pm. Also, on Sunday, December 26th and Sunday, January 2nd, we will have only one service at 10:30 am. Please make a note of it and come celebrate the birth of our Savior!

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: The church office will be closed at noon on Friday, December 24th. After Christmas, the office will be closed all day on December 27th and January 3rd.

BALLOT RESULTS from last week's congregational meeting follow. All those who ran for office were voted into our church council. The 2022 budget was approved. The majority of votes for the capital projects were cast for Option 2, which was the interior renovations AND the parking lot resurfacing. Thank you for voting!

ADOPT-A-FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS DEADLINE TODAY: The deadline for turning in your donated gifts is today. You can leave them in the designated box in the alcove by the chair lift. If you forgot, please bring them to the church office tomorrow as the family will pick up the gifts on Tuesday. Thank you for helping bring joy to this needy family!

BRADLEY BAKER IS BACK! Many of you remember our guest soloist Bradley Baker who last worshipped with us for our 160th Anniversary celebration back in October. Mr. Baker will again be with us NEXT Sunday, December 26th, so we hope you can come and hear him. Please note we have only one service next Sunday at 10:30 am. See you then!

FAMILY BLESSING SUNDAY: During worship on Sunday, January 9th you can come forward as a family (and yes, one person is a family in God's eyes) and receive a blessing. You can come with different people in your family (you and your spouse, you and your extended family, etc.) or even those you consider as family—as many times as you want. What a wonderful way to begin 2022!

QUILTING GROUP NEWS: We will begin meeting again on Monday, January 10th at 9:30 am in the lounge, and we meet every Monday from January through March. Everyone is welcome; no experience necessary! If you have questions, please call Jane Neal at 419-276-5057 or Ginny Nissen at 419-698-2822. See you soon!

FOUNDER'S SUNDAY: At both services on Sunday, January 16th, we will have a special recognition of the founders of First St. John. This is part of our 160th anniversary. Pastor Paul Doerfler, descendent of our founding pastor Johannes Doerfler, will be preaching that Sunday.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: All newly elected and incumbent members of Church Council, Day School Board, WELCA, and Altar Guild should plan to attend church on Sunday, January 16th. Officers will be installed during both church services as they begin their 2022 duties.

NEW PORTALS OF PRAYER AVAILABLE: The new Portals of Prayer devotional booklets for January – March are now available for pick up. They are in either large or small print and can be found in the Narthex or the lounge. The small print version can also be found in the top slot of the caddy on the wall outside the door by the choir loft.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2022 are on tables in the lounge, listed in alphabetical order from left to right, top to bottom. If a married couple is contributing jointly, the label on the box will show the husband's name. If you do not have envelopes but would like to receive them, please contact Toni in the church office at 419-691-7222.

ATTENTION BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANTS: We will resume our Bible study after the holidays on Thursday, January 6th (same times as before). Have a wonderful Christmas!

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY FOCUS FOR DECEMBER is band aids and disposable razors. Please deposit your items in the pull-out drawer to the left of the Feed Your Neighbor bin in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) or in the green bin in the lounge. Thank you!

2022 CALENDARS FROM EGGLESON-MEINERT-PAVLEY: For those who have asked, we checked and found they are on order. As with a lot of things these days, the calendar shipment to Eggleston's has been delayed. We will let you know as soon as we get them.

2022 ALTAR FLOWERS The flower sign up book in the Narthex has been updated to include January through November, 2022. If you'd like to sign up for flowers in the coming year, the book is located under the main bulletin board. Envelopes for payment can be found in the book or in the small caddy on the wall to the right of the bulletin board.

BIRTHDAY FOR JESUS PROJECT: Honor the Savior by sharing his story! Join the Gideons International in donating Bibles to people around the world. Twenty-five dollars will provide 5 Bibles, \$50 for 10 Bibles, etc. Envelopes for donating by cash or check for this project can be found in the Narthex (lobby), and you can put your donation in the offering plate. If you'd like to donate online, please go to www.BirthdayForJesus.org. The more Bibles donated, the more ornaments will appear on the Christmas tree in the Narthex. Let's fill it up! If you have questions, you can call the Gideons International toll free at 1-866-382-4253 or see Mark Ackerman. Thank you!

COMMUNITY DISCOUNT CARDS MAKE GOOD CHRISTMAS GIFTS! The Day School is having a fundraiser selling cards that allow you to enjoy special discounts at your favorite local vendors. The card is good from November 1, 2021 to November 1, 2022. Some of the savings include 15% off at El Camino Real, \$12 for a 20-pound propane tank refill at Gladioux Home Center, 10% off at Salad Galley, 10% off at Lee Williams House of Meats, 15% off a full service oil change at Valvoline, \$5 off \$25 at Live Lively Boutique, plus discounts at other local stores like Soap City Car Wash, Shawarmaholic, Beth Allen's Florist, Great Clips, Eastern Lanes, and Marco's Pizza. Cards are \$20, and you can purchase them in the Narthex after church today and also on upcoming Sundays. Or, you can purchase them from the church or Day School offices during the week. Thank you for supporting First St. John's biggest ministry!

DR. PATTIN'S CDs: Just in time for Christmas gifts! Dr. Pattin's music CDs are available in the church office for purchase at \$15 each. Here is the list of titles with the number of CDs available in parentheses: "With a Touch of Class" (3), "Live From New York" (4), "Recital Highlights" (3), "Tidings of Comfort and Joy" (3), and "Trip Down Memory Lane" (6). If you'd like to purchase any, please call 419-691-7222 or stop in at the church office. (If you are paying by check, please make it out to *Anthony Pattin.*)

HELP FOR TORNADO VICTIMS: On December 10th, a devastating outbreak of more than 30 tornadoes swept through six states. Kentucky was impacted the most, with more than 70 people reported dead. More than 330,000 people are without electricity across multiple states. The full extent of the damage is expected to become clear in the coming days. Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with partners in the affected areas, including the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, to respond to immediate needs. Given the initial damage assessments, recovery will likely take years, and Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to accompany survivors until the response is complete. **Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for "U.S. tornadoes" will be used entirely (100%) to assist those affected by tornadoes.** Together, we can support those who are on the long road to recovery. Please give today. You can call 1-800-638-3522 Monday – Friday from 8AM to 5PM Central Time to make a donation with a credit card. Or you can mail a check to Lutheran Disaster Response and write "U.S. Tornadoes" on the memo line. Then send it to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009